

STATE OF MARYLAND
BOARD OF WATERWORKS AND WASTE SYSTEMS OPERATORS
FINAL MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON: January 24, 2013

MISSION OF THE MARYLAND BOARD OF WATERWORKS & WASTE SYTEMS OPERATORS

The Treatment Systems that provide drinking water for our citizens and handle the wastes generated by our daily activities play an important role in protecting Public Health and the Environment of Maryland. Through the Certification Program established by State Law, the "Board of Waterworks and Waste Systems Operators" sets the education, experience and examination standards for Operators and Superintendents who work in these vital systems.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

William Shreve	Joe Haxton	Dominic Deludos
Hiram Tanner	Russell Kelley	Nancy Reilman
Jerry Wheeler		

OTHERS PRESENT

Don Sprinkle	WWOA Liaison
Tom Riley	MES Liaison
George Kohutiak	Board Counsel
Lawrence Robinson	Board Technical Advisor
E. Lee Haskins	Board Secretary

01. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chairman, Bill Shreve called the meeting to order at 10:40 A.M. at the Howard County Bureau of Utilities, in Columbia, Maryland. Seven Board Members, two Board Liaisons, the Board Counsel, the Board Technical Advisor, and the Board Secretary were present.

02. AGENDA REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF PROPOSED MEETING AGENDA

It was moved by Nancy Reilman, and seconded by Dr. Kelley to approve the meeting agenda with two additions. The motion was approved unanimously.

03. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

Board Members reviewed draft minutes for the meeting held on December 20, 2012. It was moved by Nancy Reilman, and seconded by Joe Haxton to approve the minutes with adjustments to line/topic numbering on page #2. The motion was approved unanimously.

Board Members reviewed draft minutes for the "Closed Session"

1 meeting held on December 20, 2012. It was moved by Dr. Kelley, and
2 seconded by Nancy Reilman to approve the minutes with several
3 corrections. The motion was approved unanimously.
4

5 **04. BOARD CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

6
7 Board Chairman, Bill Shreve welcomed everyone for braving the
8 inclement weather conditions (Snow Storm). He also thanked everyone
9 for taking time out of their busy schedules to attend the meeting.
10

11 **04A. PRESENTATIONS**

12
13 There were no presentations.
14

15 **05. SECRETARY'S REPORT**

16 17 **A. Administrative Activities.** Mr. Haskins reported:

- 18
19 1. The overall-passing rate for the certification exams from
20 July 1, 2012 through December, 2012 was 33%. (Last Month =
21 40%)
22
23 2. Board revenues through January 16, 2013 were **\$107,814.25**
24 The Board expenses were **\$130,728.94**. The encumbrances were
25 **\$18,335.00**. The Board's budget allowance for FY 2013 is
26 **\$232,480**.
27

28 **B. Correspondence.**

29
30 The Board received an email from ABC. ABC has produced a
31 "Model Standards of Operator Certification" draft. Copies of
32 this document were passed out to all those present.
33

34 **06. REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS**

35 36 **REQUESTS FOR RECIPROCITY:**

37 38 **1. Michael J. Carroll**

39
40 **REQUEST:** Mr. Carroll works for the Parsons Corporation. Parsons is
41 one of the world's largest engineering and construction
42 organizations specializing in infrastructure, transportation,
43 planning, environmental operations, industrial operations. Mr.
44 Carroll is planning to work at the FMC site at 1701 E. Patapsco
45 Avenue. The work is primarily for remediation of groundwater
46 contamination. This is pending the contract being awarded to his
47 company.
48

49 Board Members discussed the request at length, and decided to defer
50 any action on the request until the Board staff obtains more
51 information regarding the expiration dates of Mr. Carroll's New

Jersey licenses.

2. Douglas D. Taylor

REQUEST: Mr. Taylor works for the Parsons Corporation. Parsons is one of the world's largest engineering and construction organizations specializing in infrastructure, transportation, planning, environmental operations, industrial operations. Mr. Taylor is planning to work at the FMC site at 1701 E. Patapsco Avenue. The work is primarily for remediation of groundwater contamination. This is pending the contract being awarded to his company.

Board Members discussed the request at length, and decided to defer any action on the request until the Board staff obtains more information on New York's Industrial Wastewater Certification processes. Specifically, Board Members want to know if the processes of Industrial certification in New York are similar to Maryland standards.

REQUESTS FOR Educational Substitution:

REQUEST: Mr. Ritter works for Environmental Associates Services & Training, Inc. Mr. Ritter operates the "Town of Indian Head" wastewater treatment system. He is requesting "Educational Substitution" for a Maryland Wastewater Treatment Operator Class W5 and WA certificates. He has a B.S. degree in "Environmental Management" from the University of Maryland, University College (12/2010). According to his Official College transcript he has 45 credits in Math and Sciences.

Board Members discussed the issues regarding the request. Joe Haxton moved that the Board grant 12 months "Educational Substitution" for Mr. Ritter. The motion was seconded by Dr. Kelley. The motion was approved unanimously. Mr. Ritter will now be eligible to receive his Operators W5A certificate on March 1, 2013.

07. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Magazine Sub-Committee

A. Nancy Hausrath was not present.

B. Training Review and Evaluation (TRE) Committee

Board Members reviewed several early requests for Continuing

1 Education approval for certain MCET courses. Board members reviewed
2 the requests and approved all of the submitted courses.

3 4 **8. ON-GOING BUSINESS**

- 5
6 A Work on the "New Proposed Regulations" was deferred.
7 B. Work on updating the TRE Policy was deferred until the
8 February Board meeting.
9 C. Board members received a request from the Carroll County
10 Department of Public Utilities. The Departments requested
11 that the Board grant a Superintendent license to Ms. Annie
12 E. Zollers. Board Members discussed the request, and Ms.
13 Zollers qualifications for this type of license. After a
14 discussion, Board Member, Nancy Reilman motioned to grant
15 Ms. Zollers a Superintendent T4 certificate on October 1,
16 2013. The motion was seconded by Joe Haxton. The vote was
17 unanimous.
18

19 **9. DISCUSSION WITH BOARD LIAISONS AND GUESTS**

- 20
21 A. Don Sprinkle, the WWOA Liaison had no issues of concern.
22 B. Tom Riley, the MES Liaison asked the Board to review a Board
23 staff decision regarding two of his MES employees. According
24 to Tom Riley, Benjamin Shank and Timothy Strit are both
25 working at T4 and T3 water facilities. They both took and
26 passed the T4 exam. They now want to be certified as T2
27 Operators. Board staff declined to certify them based on the
28 fact that they had not yet completed 500 hours of experience
29 at a T2 water plant. Mr. Riley indicated that he can
30 document the 500 hours at the T2 facility. The other
31 question was can a person be licensed as a T2 worker and not
32 have taken the T2 exam. Board Member, Joe Haxton moved that
33 the Board should recognize the T4 exam as similar to the T2
34 exam and allow a person to use a passing score on the T4
35 exam in exchange for the T2 exam. The motion was seconded by
36 Nancy Reilman. The vote was unanimous to approve the motion.
37
38 C. Jack Bowen, the MRWA Liaison was unable to attend the
39 meeting.
40 D. Noelle Anuszkiewicz, the CWEA Liaison was unable to attend
41 the meeting.
42 E. Karen Brandt, the MCET Liaison was unable to attend the
43 meeting.
44 F. Dave Duree, the MOWPA Liaison was unable to attend the
45 meeting.
46

47 **10. CLOSED SESSION**

48
49 The Board met in closed session on December 20, 2012, from 10:09 AM
50 until 10:44 AM. This meeting took place at the Headquarters of the
51 Maryland Environmental Service. The address is 259 Najoles Road,
52 Millersville, Maryland 21108. This meeting was held to consult with

1 counsel and discuss and consider the discipline of a certified
2 operator, including possible revocation or suspension of the
3 operator's Board-issued certificates. During this session, the Board
4 also reviewed and discussed, and obtained legal advice concerning, a
5 draft letter to respond to a PIA request from the City of Salisbury.

6
7 State Government Article, §§ 10-508 (a) (1) (i) and 10-508 (a) (7)
8 authorizes closing a Board meeting for these purposes.
9

10 Acting on a motion by Nancy Hausrath, seconded by Dr. Kelley, Board
11 Members present and agreeing to close the meeting were Nancy
12 Reilman, James Stewart, Joe Haxton, Rene Javier, Hiram Tanner, Jerry
13 Wheeler, and Joe Johnson. It is noted that Chairman Shreve did not
14 vote. The Board Counsel, George Kohutiak, the Board Technical
15 Advisor, Lawrence Robinson, and Lee Haskins, the Board Secretary,
16 were also present. The vote was unanimous to close the meeting.
17

18 **Discussion of Operator Discipline**

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20 The Board Counsel, George Kohutiak, briefed the Board regarding the
21 ongoing negotiations with the attorney for the operator. Christian
22 Dabb, the MDE prosecutor, is handling these issues. Board Members
23 were advised that if a hearing is to be held it most likely will
24 take place during the February Board meeting in Laurel, Maryland.
25 Counsel explained the issues regarding the case, and the change in
26 the verdict to "Probation-before-Judgment" (PBJ). Board Members
27 discussed the permanent revocation of the operator's wastewater
28 certificates and a 12 month suspension of the operator's water
29 certificates. This matter will be continued at the January Board
30 meeting.
31

32 *****
33

34 **PIA Request from City of Salisbury:**

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36 Board Members also discussed the PIA request from the City of
37 Salisbury and their law firm AquaLaw PLC. The Board Counsel, George
38 Kohutiak has drafted a response letter. Board Members reviewed the
39 letter and agreed with its content. The Board Secretary will sign
40 the letter on behalf of the Board, and send it out in the mail
41 tomorrow.
42

43 Acting on a motion by Jimmy Stewart, seconded by Dr. Kelley, Board
44 Members voted unanimously to come out of closed session at 10:44
45 A.M. The vote was unanimous.
46

47 **11. ADJOURNMENT**

48
49 Acting on a motion by Joe Haxton, seconded by Nancy Reilman,
50 Board Members voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 12:37
51 P.M. **The next Board meeting is scheduled for February 21, 2013,**
52 **at the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission Headquarters**

1 **Building, in Laurel, Maryland. The meeting will start at 10:00**
2 **A.M.**
3
4 Respectfully Submitted,
5 E. Lee Haskins
6 Board Secretary